

FRESH FACES AT LOAKES PARK



JOHN PRATT (Goalkeeper) aged 25 years, schoolteacher at Wellesbourne school has represented The Athenian and Hellenic Leagues. A former Aston Villa colt, Pratt has been with Hayes and assisted Amersham Town last season.



PHIL PAYNE (utility-forward), also a schoolteacher. Payne has gained a Cambridge University blue and has played for Cambridge United. A lecturer at Reading University, 25-years-old Payne has represented the University of Vienna and although he plays in all the forward positions he prefers the centre-forward or outside-left spot.



DAVE THOMAS (wing-half), well-known to Wycombe Wanderers supporters as he spent six years at Loakes Park before joining Maidenhead where he was captain for four seasons. Thomas, 27, has been honoured by the Athenian League and has played 20 times for Berks and Bucks.

STEVE FREEMAN (inside-forward or wing-half) only 16. Freeman was once with Wanderers before he went to Reading — has played for Wycombe boys and was offered apprentice-pro forms at Reading but has now decided to return to Loakes Park.

COLIN REED (wing-half) spent six years with Walton and Hershaw and has just moved into the district. A strong defender Reed has been honoured by the Athenian League.

GEOFF TRENDLE (inside-forward or wing-half) a local lad, aged 19, who lives at Hazlehurst.

LOU TEMEL (wing-half). Like Pratt, Temel is a schoolteacher, ex-Hayes and helped Amersham last season. 23-years-old Temel is a former Combined Universities player and has represented the Hellenic League.

WANDERERS TAKE HOSPITAL CUP FROM THE 'REBELS'

Latest signing Lailey stars in 4-2-4 system

Slough Town 1, Wycombe Wanderers 2

SLOUGH TOWN'S two-year grip on the Westminster Hospital Cup was ended at the Dolphin on Wednesday evening, when Wycombe Wanderers gave a fighting and inspired display to lift the trophy.

Because of an injury to Tony Horseman, Wanderers used a 4-2-4 formation with Barry Baker and Dave Thomas as the midfield link. Wycombe's latest signing Julian Lailey made his first appearance and gave a very polished performance acting as the 'sweeper-up' behind Faulkner.

On this showing Lailey, who was with Marlow for a few years before going to Nottingham, will make a considerable improvement to Wanderers' defence. Although on the small side he tackles strongly and uses the ball intelligently.

It took Wanderers only two minutes to open the scoring when Merrick pursued a long clearance from defence and keeper Lister could only push the ball clear. Payne, at outside-left, who had a brilliant opening 45 minutes, was facing the wrong way when he cheekily back-helld into the unguarded net.

OWN GOAL

Shocked by this early set-back Slough set-up a wave of attacks but their finishing lacked penetration. However, in the 10th minute they were on level terms when Vince Faulkner made a tragic mistake by putting a pass beyond Maskell's reach instead of doing the obvious and conceding a corner.

For the rest of the half both sides probed for another chink in the defensive armour with Payne causing havoc to the Slough defenders everytime he gained possession.

Within 40 seconds of the second half Maskell raced from his goal to rob Kent in full-flight, with a well-timed dive at his feet.

This was really the last occasion that Slough seriously troubled the Wanderers rear-guard as their play became ragged and scrappy. The 'Rebels' were obviously missing the mid-field finesse supplied by Terry Reardon who has moved to Chesham.

Thomas pouncing on the clearance centred again. Samuels sneaked the pass home from inside the six-yard box to give Wanderers a deserved victory.

Wycombe Wanderers: J. Maskell; I. Rundke, C. Gale; J. Lailey, V. Faulkner, D. Thomas; L. Worley, B. Baker, K. Samuels, L. Merrick, P. Payne.

Walker reaches last four

ROSS WALKER, one of seven pupils of the Beaconsfield School of Lawn Tennis competing, reached the semi-finals in the National Junior Championships held at Exmouth last week.

Other members of the school entered in the "Invitation Only" Tournament for the top juniors in Great Britain, were Ian Johnson (Beaconsfield), Murray Dickson (Gerrards Cross) and Robin Dwydale (Hinton), the latter being coached by the Beaconsfield School of Lawn Tennis at Eton in term-time. These three joined Walker in the Boys Under 16 event.

Guy Johnson, Ian's brother, competed in the Under 14 for Boys, while Margaret Boys (Beaconsfield) and Sue Urmon (an ex-pupil from Northwood) were entered for the Girls Under 16 and Under 14 Tournaments respectively.

The Beaconsfield School supplied the entire contingent of Buckinghamshire pupils, which was also the largest ever entry.

TEAM DOUBTS

Wycombe Wanderers delay final selection for their opening Isthmian League match home to Barking tomorrow (3 p.m.). The party named is—J. Maskell, J. Pratt, I. Rundke, C. Gale, V. Faulkner, J. Lailey, L. Worley, K. Samuels, A. Horseman, D. Thomas, L. Merrick, L. Temel, P. Payne.

The reserves are away to Barking (3 p.m.) and will be selected from—J. Pratt, M. Calvert, B. Vouden, S. Thompson, D. Hall, C. Reed, K. Lane, R. Donaldson, P. Payne, S. Freeman, R. Honeyman, D. Tilbury, S. Tapping.

On Tuesday Wanderers have another Isthmian League fixture when they entertain Hitchin (7.30 p.m.).

Athletics

PHOENIX IN ACT EALING

WYCOMBE PHOENIX Harriers committee have recently decided to make an application to enter the new National Athletics League to be set up next season by the Amateur Athletic Association. As a result the club have to submit performances at several events they stage at the Holywell Mead track and so the club were glad

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